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Special ASES Graduation Section Inside

Arena costs total \$13.3 million

by CHAD INGRAM
Editor

Costs for the new Minden arena total \$13.3 million, a report from Minden Hills finance director Lorrie Blanchard shows, and the township will finalize a debenture through Infrastructure Ontario that will cover nearly \$11.5 million of that expense.

Township councillors received Blanchard's report on the debenture during an online meeting in late June.

The project got underway in the spring of 2019, and included the demolition of the former S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena and the construction of a new facility featuring an NHL-sized rink, six change rooms, a fitness room, and gymnasium with an elevated walking track. The project's initial budget was \$12.5 million, with McDonald Brothers Construction, the company that built the facility, coming back to council in December of 2019 requesting an additional \$250,000. That was approved, bringing the budget to \$12.75 million.

see NEW page 3



Grads' big day

Rachel Joanis, of Minden, poses for a photo with her parents, Diane and Marc, at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School last Tuesday, June 29, as the school held its end-of-year graduation ceremony. See more photos on page 5. /MIKE BAKER

HHLT hopes to maintain the Highlands Corridor

by CHAD INGRAM
Editor

The Haliburton Highlands Land Trust has made an application to the Ontario government to have a swath of natural habitat it is

referring to as the Highlands Corridor added to a list of protected land within the province.

Haliburton County councillors heard a presentation from Shelley Hunt of the land trust and Paul Heaven of Glenside Ecological Services during a June 23 online meeting. As Hunt explained, the federal government has pledged to protect 25 per cent of its land base

by 2025, and 30 per cent by 2030. Currently, Hunt said, 12 per cent of land nationally is protected, 11 per cent within Ontario.

"So, there's a bit of a long way to before we hit that 30 per cent target," she said, explaining that the 30 per cent threshold is one that has been identified by scientific experts

see LOCAL page 4

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John Howard Society offering more to those in need of support

by **SUE TIFFIN**
Times Staff

A new sign at the Minden office of the John Howard Society of Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton better reflects what the agency offers – not just literacy and basic skills, but a complete learning centre.

Kirstley Dams, counsellor/facilitator, skills development for the John Howard Society City of Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton said the rebranding helps to ensure more people who need support will reach out.

“People think we’re only interacting with people involved in the justice system, or they assume that literacy and basic skills means we’re just teaching math and reading,” she said. “Those are both pieces of what we do, but we do a lot more. Part of our mission statement is fair and justice treatment for everyone. That goes far and wide. That doesn’t just mean people coming to us with a criminal past. We have a lot of facets. So basically if there’s anyone that needs some sort of assistance, we’ll make sure that either we can do it or we refer directly to another agency and we never turn anyone away.”

A harm reduction and crisis intervention program has recently been added to the offerings at the John Howard Society and is running as a pilot program until 2023, determining how it might be used in the community.

“It’s to support communities in the prevention of infectious diseases and death, through harm reduction services,” Dams said. “Harm reduction is a really important initiative in order to respond to the high prevalence of prescription drug abuse and then the associated harms with that: blood-borne infections, sexually transmitted diseases, overdoses, and I think across North America right now we’re just seeing such an increase in overdose or disease because of those prescription drug abuses.”

The program currently includes safe injection kit distribution, Naloxone training and kits, health promotion and support for community-based programs, including support for a housing crisis or food insecurity.

Dams said that local agencies are working together to refer clients to each other if programs at one agency are a better fit for their needs, or if someone has exhausted resources at one agency but needs more support.

“Unfortunately the resources are not endless, we need to make sure there’s enough to go around,” said Dams. “If someone has utilized as many grocery gift cards as they can – that agency might refer them to us and say, they’re still experiencing this food insecurity, can you help them? And then we’re not just going to solve that symptom, we want to get to the source of it. So obviously that usually is correlated with, they need help with the employment aspect. And we’re happy to not only help them find a job but work on building the skills they need.”

Some people who call or are referred might have a goal in terms of what kind of job they want, but don’t necessarily have the skills or lived experience to get that job, said Dams. At John Howard Society, she said people can access existing programs in the database for help, or “we also pretty much start from scratch” on every person that comes in.

“Every person that wants to do part of our programming, whether they want to upgrade some schooling, or they don’t have a job goal or a school goal, they just say, ‘hey, I really want to learn to be more independent on the computer, I don’t know how to fill out an online application.’ Whatever the case may be, we’ll build individual programming for that person.”

She said many people want to start their own business, and while the John Howard Society can help them look into business loans, there might be other next steps to come first.

“The next step is, OK, do they know how to use the computer efficiently in order to get an online database or a website going or a Facebook business page? And then we have so many kind of entry-level accounting programs we can help them with, and budgeting programs. We try to just offer what we have, or create new programming for every person that walks in the door.”

While the John Howard Society originated in helping people coming out of or transitioning from the criminal justice system, and much of their programming still supports clients working through that, Dams said “that’s not all we do.”

The Finding Employment with a Criminal Record program is popular, helping clients with support to find and retain



A new sign was recently installed at the John Howard Society of Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton building in Minden, promoting some of the services they offer. /MIKE BAKER Staff.

meaningful employment or reach employment goals. “It could be that someone doesn’t know how to even turn on a computer. They just want to learn how to use a computer, and from there we can go, OK, now you can apply to jobs. And this whole new world has opened up because we taught them this one life skill.”

Dams has also helped clients practice and prepare to apply for business loans, or who need support with online schooling.

“We’re trying to combat that public image people have of us, of what we actually do and who we actually help,” said Dams. “Now we’re calling ourselves a learning centre, because that’s what we are.” Four days a week, Dams helps mostly adults as a literacy and basic skills facilitator and resource counsellor, and one day a week, she now helps in the Minden office to support youth services, which includes youth taking a non-traditional approach to schooling, or transitioning from youth-based services into adulthood, which can be notably overwhelming as they look to register for ID, or look into housing.

A Towards a Healthy Future series of programming recently advertised has almost two dozen kids from Haliburton County signed up to learn about safe and effective cooking skills while increasing knowledge of nutrition and sustainable skills for all ages. Participants will pick-up ingredients and a booklet with healthy eating tips, recipes and some activities before working with their family at home in the kitchen to make, for example, three different foods using Greek yogurt – naan, tzatziki dip and a frozen dessert. Dams said the program could run quarterly if it proves to be popular.

“We really are servicing anyone, and it doesn’t just mean low-income. With that food program ... a lot of people reached out and said, ‘hey, I’m really interested, but I’m not low-income.’ And that’s not a qualification ... There was no criteria for it, it was simple, you can come and pick up a kit, do the online registration and you’re good to go. It’s summer now, the kids are out of school and you’re going to need new ideas for how to keep the kids busy.”

Programming for financial literacy, digital literacy, conflict management, supported course study, job retention and pre-employment is also available, for anyone, by referral or by simply calling to ask for support.

“I want people to reach out and see,” said Dams. “If they have a need, why not reach out to see if we can support you in that need. A lot of people, if they’re not sure, they don’t want to get rejected. They don’t want to reach out to say, hey, I need help with A, B, C, they don’t want us to say, no, we can’t do that. We’re literally never going to say no. If we can’t do it personally, we will just find the right person to refer you to, and we will refer you directly.”

And once one skill is achieved, Dams said that’s not where services stop.

“Once you’ve conquered that skill you’re working on, let us take it to the next level, or show you how to put it into real-life use,” she said.

For more information about the John Howard Society, City of Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton, visit <https://johnhoward.on.ca/kawartha/> or call 705-340-0249.

New arena comes in over budget

from page 1

Council has since approved expenditures for a host of items that were not included in the project's base budget, including a snack bar with a budget of \$60,000.

Blanchard's report shows that of the \$13.3 million, just more than \$1 million has come from township reserves; \$150,000 from an Ontario Trillium Foundation grant; about \$45,000 in Safe Restart funding from the province; and about \$15,000 from energy grants.

The bulk of the project will be paid through a loan of approximately \$11.4 million from Infrastructure Ontario, a Crown lending corporation, to be paid off during a 25-year period. A series of meetings will be required to finalize interest rates and legalities, with the debenture expected to be finalized in August.



Back in business

Janet Hirstwood, owner of Head Inn Hairstyling in Minden, has been busier than she's ever been since reopening her salon last Wednesday, June 30. Since Ontario moved into Step 2 of its reopening plan, Janet, and her fellow stylist Aurora, have been getting through a dozen cuts per day. Janet says she is booked solid through to July 23. Susan, also pictured, was happy to finally get a haircut on Tuesday, July 6, with her last coming in November 2020. To be added to the waitlist for a cut, contact Head Inn Hairstylist at 705-286-2585. /MIKE BAKER Staff

Hospital foundation launches new 50/50 lottery to support equipment purchases

HHHS Foundation is excited to announce a new monthly online 50/50 lottery draw, with 50 per cent of the funds raised going to a monthly winner, and 50 per cent to support local hospital and health care facility equipment needs.

Through a digital technology platform, tickets will be available for purchase online at the Foundation lottery site www.hhhsf5050.ca beginning June 30 at 11:30 a.m. Tickets can be purchased for \$20 for 100 ticket numbers, \$10 for 20 ticket numbers, or \$5 for 5 ticket numbers.

After buying their tickets, purchasers will receive a confirmation emailed with their 50/50 registered numbers from a


random selection system. The amount of the 50/50 estimated take-home prize for the month will be displayed in real time on the site and will continue to grow as more people participate.

"Following nine successful years of our Cash for Care Lottery, we look forward to engaging with the community in this electronic format to continue to raise much-needed funds for priority capital equipment for Haliburton Highlands Health Services", said Lisa Tompkins, HHHS Foundation Executive Director.

Purchasers must be in the province of Ontario at the time

of purchase, and must be 18 years of age or older to participate. For the first draw, tickets will be available for purchase until 11:59 p.m. on July 29, and the first monthly draw will take place on July 30 at 9 a.m., with the winner's information posted on the www.hhhsf5050.ca website, as well as the Foundation's social media platforms Facebook and Instagram.

- Submitted



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(VIRTUAL) COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted virtually via web conference meetings, until further notice. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted.

The schedule of upcoming meetings are:

July 29 – Regular Council Meeting
August 26 – Regular Council Meeting

Please note Council Meetings are reduced to one (1) meeting a month in July, August and December.

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by joining a live-stream link available on the township website at www.mindenhills.ca/council/ or by using the direct link provided in the notice. We encourage those wishing to view the meeting to also download the agenda, as it will not be displayed during the streaming process. Meeting agendas can be downloaded by visiting our website at www.mindenhills.ca/council/.

Please note the live-stream link provided for each meeting will only be activated while Council is in session.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

We are currently looking to fill a variety of positions within the Township. Many opportunities include benefits such as enrollment in a comprehensive benefit package, Employee Assistance Plan, life insurance, personal health coverage, OMERS pension plan, vacation, float and sick time entitlements as well as opportunities for training and development. Please see below and visit our website at www.mindenhills.ca/employment-opportunities/ for more information and application deadlines.

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Oversees the day-to-day financial functions and provides assistance to the Director of Finance/Treasurer in the development and implementation of financial goals and objectives relative to the processing and payment of accounts receivables, utility billing and general accounting requirements. This is a permanent, full time, union position. Hours are 35/week, Monday to Friday. Rate of Pay is \$24.60/hour, subject to union dues. Submission deadline is July 15, 2021 by 12:00 noon.

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Equipment Labourer (Short Term)

COMMUNITY SERVICES

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Operator (Casual)

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A MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Babysitting Safety Tips

Parents need to know who their child is sitting for; make it a rule that the sitter must always have permission before a babysitting job is accepted.

Meet with the family before you or your child babysits and get the following information:

- Parents' names
- Children's names and ages
- Address of the house
- Emergency services number (usually 911)
- Nationwide poison control hotline: 1-800-222-1222
- Location of fire extinguisher, flashlights
- Cell phone or pager number for parents

General safety reminders for sitters:

- Turn on outside lights in the evening
- Keep doors and windows locked; lock the door after the parent leaves
- If the kids are asleep, check on them every 15 minutes
- Never identify yourself as the sitter on the phone, instead, say the parent can't come to the phone and take a message
- Don't tie up the phone, in case the parents are trying to call

Potentially dangerous items or situations in the home:

- Small children in bathtubs - never leave a child alone in the bathtub, not even for a second.
- In case of a fire know all the ways out of the house. Get kids out immediately, stay close to the floor, and do not open a door if it is hot. Only when you are out of the house, call for help from a neighbor's, and do not go back in for any reason.

For more babysitting safety information please visit <https://kidsit.com/stay-safe-babysitting>.



WASTE REDUCTION TIP

You can drop off textiles (in good and poor condition) in the donation bin at Scotch Line Landfill. Good textiles are re-used and poor quality textiles are recycled.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS/TENDERS

Please see below and visit our website at www.mindenhills.ca/tenders/ for more information and submission deadlines.

RFT #RDS 21-08 Moore Lake Drainage Improvements

The Township is seeking qualified bids to undertake drainage improvements at Moore Lake Estates Road and Shetland Drive. The deadline for submissions is July 14, 2021 by 12:00 noon.

RFP #CSD 21-01 Fitness Equipment (Supply & Installation)

The Township is seeking proposals from interested and qualified Respondents for the provision and installation of exercise equipment in the new Minden Hills Community Centre and SG Nesbitt Memorial Arena. The deadline for submissions is July 28, 2021 by 12:00 noon.

Every child matters

As a member of Alderville First Nation I feel the area needs to be reminded of the traditional territory of the Ojibway people and Indigenous nations that lived in this area. Our family owns Homestead Cottage Resort on Hwy 35. North of Carnarvon and displayed our 'orange shirt' Every Child Matters'. / Submitted by Jacqueline Gorveatt



Local land trust looking to protect 70,000 hectares of wetlands

from page 1

as being key to sustaining long-term environmental health.

"Beyond just sort of helping to meet those provincial targets, there's [a] lot of great reasons to protect more land in this area," Hunt said, adding some of those included climate change mitigation, maintaining wildlife habitat and providing connectivity of that habitat.

Much of the habitat included in what the land trust is referring to as the Highlands Corridor lies within the Township of Minden Hills. A series of wetlands, it includes some Crown land, some properties owned by the land trust, and some municipal parks. In total, it would add 70,000 hectares to the province's protected land mass, Hunt said.

"I would like to know specifically what is it that we could do to help your efforts to see some [of] the Crown lands get greater protection?" asked Algonquin Highlands Deputy

Mayor and County Warden Liz Daniels.

Heaven, who noted the project is in preliminary stages with boundaries still being identified, said that at this point generating interest and enthusiasm for project would be helpful.

"We will not be able to [get] provincial interest unless we get local community interest," he said. "We need council on board, we need the community on board."

The land trust's full presentation can be viewed on the agenda for the June 23 Haliburton County council meeting.

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Road repairs for Ingoldsby transfer station coming later this month

by CHAD INGRAM
Editor

Minden Hills residents who use the Ingoldsby transfer station can expect the road and disposal platform at the site to be repaired this month.

That project was included in the town-

ship's 2021 budget and while its completion has been delayed due to staffing shortages, the work should be done soon, according to a report from public works director Travis Wilson, received by councillors during a June 24 online meeting.

"Severe staffing shortages in early spring set roads crews behind on regulated public road maintenance," Wilson's report reads. "[Our] roads crew are catching up and the

work to repair the Ingoldsby transfer station platform/roadway is planned to occur in the next month. "As staffing shortages continue to be an issue, the work will be completed with contracted services and internal efforts."

The township continues to wait for approval from the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks for the construction of a new transfer station at the Scotch Line landfill site. The new transfer station will mean that residents will deposit all of their waste and recycling in bins located near the gates of the facility, instead of driving through the landfill.

"Staff have followed up on the status of the application with the MECP and learned the file has not yet been assigned to a reviewer," Wilson's report reads. "The MECP cannot guarantee a timeline. The township has the ability to request an expedited review, but will need to demonstrate urgency. Because the township acted quickly on development and submission of the plan, an expedited review based on urgency may not be needed at this point, but may become warranted before the end of the year as operating space continues to decline."

The township is preparing a request for proposals for the construction project, so it can be issued as soon as approval is granted.

"Council will note that operating space at Scotch Line landfill is becoming limited," the report read. "The site equipment operator and landfill attendants are doing their best to maintain a clean, navigable facility. Staff are appreciative of the public's patience, understanding, and largely positive feedback as the site undergoes significant and continual change."

The township also continues to wait on the ministry for the approval of an agreement between Minden Hills and the Municipality of Highlands East that will allow Minden Hills residents who were affected by the closure of the Irondale landfill to use the Glamorgan transfer station, owned and operated by Highlands East.

"From the perspective of the township and [consulting firm GHD], the application is a simple administrative change with little to no environmental impact, and that historically, residents from Highlands East had access to the Irondale landfill with no negative impacts."

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*David Wolf, H. Allen Klaiber, Bloom and bust: Toxic algae's impact on nearby property values, Ecological Economics, 2017

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All smiles for graduation

Minden's Brian Kim was one of 113 students to officially graduate from Haliburton Highlands Secondary School last Tuesday, June 29. There was a day-long celebration held outdoors at the school, where graduates and families were invited to attend, in small groups, for the ceremonial walk. A virtual ceremony was held in the evening. /MIKE BAKER Staff



HHSS vice principal Jennifer Mills congratulates her niece, Alexis Mills, on her graduation. *Editor's note - Jennifer and Alexis are in the same social bubble, hence the physical contact.



Minden resident Nathan Miscio was all smiles as he celebrated his graduation with family.

Check out next week's edition of the Minden Times, where we will have a special graduation section dedicated to Haliburton Highlands Secondary School's and the AAEC's 2021 graduates.

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Make your voice heard

LATE LAST MONTH, Haliburton County councillors received an initial presentation from the consultants responsible for the drafting of a new shoreline preservation bylaw.

That process will involve an extensive, two-phased public consultation and any county residents with an interest in this controversial issue should be sure to participate. Also, share this column far and wide. I'm not kidding, and I'm not suggesting that sheerly out of self-promotion.

Last time around, during an in-house process that was eventually halted due to an outpouring of criticism, there was a repeated sentiment from numerous residents that they'd known nothing about this bylaw that was being created. There were repeated implications that county council was somehow trying to secretly pass a Draconian bylaw under the cloak of proverbial night.

I was on the receiving end of dozens and dozens of emails to such effect. It was difficult each time for me not to write back, "Well, I guess you haven't been reading the newspaper."

Haliburton County has two separate print media outlets and two radio stations. Conversations around the creation of a shoreline preservation bylaw have been ongoing for about three years, and I know I've personally written at least a dozen stories on the issue.

Local media aside, there are municipal newsletters, websites and social media channels where this information has been available. If you are somehow unaware of the subject of the shoreline preservation bylaw, which at this point is the most controversial thing I've seen in nearly 13 years of covering municipal

government in Haliburton County, you are not paying attention.

So, to reiterate, there is going to be an extensive, two-phased public consultation and any resident with an interest in this controversial issue should be sure to participate.

The issue is complicated and council's position unenviable. Amid the field of general opinion, there are two very vocal and powerful local organizations polarizing the conversation around the draft bylaw, those being the Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners'

Associations, and the Haliburton County Home Builders. In between is county council, among whose eight members there exists a spectrum of opinion on how restrictive the bylaw should be.

Along with virtual open houses and surveys, the consultants'

**CHAD INGRAM**
Editor

public engagement process will involve consultations with identified stakeholders, including both organizations listed above, as well as the chamber of commerce, lake associations and others.

As Algonquin Highlands Mayor Carol Moffatt pointed out, there is some degree of issue soliciting feedback from lake associations, since an association does not speak on behalf of all its members, let alone all the residents of a lake.

As Minden Hills Mayor Brent Devolin pointed out, while the process may be considered imperfect, it's an open process, and every single individual has an opportunity to be involved in it.

That brings me to my closing: There is going to be an extensive, two-phased public consultation and any residents with an interest in this controversial issue should be sure to participate.

Kwarky

*"Good cop? Why not great cop?"*

Hammocks I have briefly known

LIKE MOST people who love the outdoors, I have had brief and tumultuous relationships with hammocks. We usually start off well enough. I try to be on my best behaviour, things seem to be going well, and then without warning I get dumped – usually about three feet.

I'm not sure if the reason is that hammocks are predisposed to disliking me or gravity just likes me more. All I know is that I could probably stay atop an ornery rodeo bull for longer.

This is a shame because, like most people, all I want to do is to be on friendly terms with my hammock. For time in a hammock can be the highlight of summer.

The problem is that I have the height of a short man and the weight of a tall man, which is probably confusing to the hammock.

You see, as far as I can tell, when you set up a hammock what you want to do is place it at a height that is easy to climb into but not so low that you hit the ground when you deposit your full weight into it.

Basically, if I were to set my hammock up at a comfortable height for my short legs, once I got in it, my weight would make the hammock slowly lower to the ground so that I might as well be lying on a ground sheet. That is why I usually set my hammock up at chest height and make a futile effort to hop into it.

What follows is something that might greatly entertain fans of professional wrestling. It begins with me approaching the hammock in a calm and focused Zen-like state. In my mind, I see the hammock and me becoming one sentient being; it is cup-

ping me lovingly, both of us focused on congeniality and swaying softly in the shade under a cloudless blue sky.

The hammock generally has a different viewpoint. It looks upon me as a virus that needs to be forcefully ejected.

And so it begins.

I climb in backwards, sitting down on it calmly as hammock aficionados prescribe. This, I have learned, is a brave act akin to turning your back on an angry lion. But at

least I am presenting my best side first.

I slowly lower my weight onto the hammock, which gives a bit and creaks in an ominous way, remarkably reminiscent of your best horror movies just before the knife-wielding doll leaps from a high shelf upon the unsuspecting victim.

Then I ever so gently lie down until I am, miracle of miracles, being cradled precariously by the hammock. For a second, I

find balance – and the hammock and I participate in an unstable and fragile truce. I dare not move or breathe. Even relaxing too much might be a fatal mistake.

This is, for me, classic hammocking.

After a few seconds, I start breathing easier, knowing that all I need do is avoid sudden movement or shifts of weight.

That's typically when the mosquito lands on my left or right arm and tips the scales.

One second I am looking at the sky hanging above, the next I am making a sudden and shallow dent in a wall of sod.

After I stand and spit out the dirt, I try again.

Because, when it comes to getting ejected from a hammock, I won't just lie down and take it.

**STEVE GALEA**
Beyond 35

IN OTHER WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

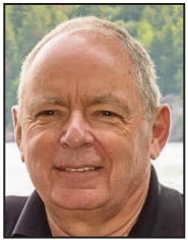
Our hot future

I'VE BEEN worrying about my granddog Rusty who has been suffering through the West Coast heat wave.

Rusty has a daily walk and on a recent outing during unusually warm temperatures he began panting heavily. His mom took him home immediately, gave him more water to drink, and washed his paws and head to cool him.

The time it took to slow his panting was a concern, but he recovered nicely and of course was anxious to get out for another walk.

Rusty's incident shows us just how dangerous our increasingly frequent, and severe, heat waves are becoming. They are affecting the health of humans and their pets, notably dogs who are difficult to keep cool because they sweat mainly through their feet and don't cool effectively with fans.



JIM POLING SR.

From Shaman's Rock

The heat has been killing hundreds of people in the Canadian and U.S. West. There is no point trying to give actual numbers because many jurisdictions do not have the same criteria for labelling deaths from severe heat exposure.

No matter what the accurate numbers, Canadians and Americans are dying of the heat more often and in greater numbers than any time before.

Some researchers say the heat that has caused hospitalizations, deaths and fires out west in the past couple of weeks is not a once-a-year event. Severe heat events are a developing health emergency that

has the potential to become as serious as the current COVID emergency.

A study published recently in the journal *Nature Climate Change* found that 37 per cent of the world's heat-related deaths are due to higher temperatures from human-caused climate change.

A couple of weeks ago the Canadian Institute for Climate Choices issued a report calling for action to help us all adapt to the new reality of extreme heat from climate change.

"Climate change is an escalating public health emergency, and we need to start treating it that way," said the introduction to the report.

U.S. climate assessments predict there will be 20 to 30 more 90-degree Fahrenheit days a year in most parts of that country by the middle of this century. Extreme heat already is a leading cause of weather-related deaths in the United States, killing an average of 600 or more a year between 1999 and 2009.

An earlier Canadian study predicted that by 2050 major Canadian cities will experience four times the number of extreme heat days than they did less than 10 years ago. Cities can become high heat islands because their buildings absorb heat and because they lack plentiful greenspaces with protective tree canopies.

Increasing extreme heat events impact more than our health.

Agriculture is endangered by high temperatures because some crops require cool nights. Hot nights also stress livestock, causing milk output to decline in cows. They also cause slower growth and reduced conception rates.

Hot nights also deprive roads and buildings of cool down time and result in deformed concrete and asphalt.

Research, and even what we are seeing and feeling in recent summers, tell us that government urgently needs to do serious planning on how to adapt to and deal with the consequences of extreme heat events. They need to identify and plan for protection of vulnerable populations, for more cooling centres and how to use heat-reflecting products for roofs and for roads.

Nature, as usual, has some of the answers for protection against extreme heat. Trees and other vegetation are known to reduce temperatures through shade and transpiration in which tiny water droplets are released by tree leaves, providing water vapour that cools the surrounding air.

The problem is that we are knocking down more trees every year. Various studies show that despite some improvements in recent years the world still is losing too many of its trees.

The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization estimates that the area of primary forest worldwide has decreased by over 80 million hectares since 1990.

Trees can be a major factor in helping us all get through the horrors of predicted future extreme heat events.

There are impressive tree planting programs seen throughout the world. But some scientists say that planting more trees is not the best approach to having more protective forests.

The best approach is to reduce the number of trees we all cut.

A class to be proud of

by **MIKE BAKER**
Times Staff

Congratulations are in order.

Last Tuesday, June 29, I had the pleasure of attending Haliburton Highlands Secondary School's 2021 graduation ceremony, where 113 students joined, spiritually, in celebration as they marked the culmination of their high school journey.

Throughout the day, groups of students arrived at the school, each taking their turn to make the symbolic walk, collect their diploma and take pictures with family.

It was certainly refreshing to see so many happy faces. Considering all that these students have had to endure, and everything they've been put through over the past 18 months, it would have been understandable if there was a less-than-joyous atmosphere on the day.

Think about it for a minute, this year's graduating class have had almost their entire year snatched away from them. There have been no sports activities, no extracurriculars, no field trips. Students who were able to attend school in-person for a few weeks in the fall and early winter were explicitly told not to gather in groups, effectively breaking up social and friend circles. There was no prom, and, finally, there was no huge to-do over their graduation.

Rather than having hundreds of people gathered together inside the school's gym-

nasium to celebrate the class' collective achievement, graduation was held in the parking lot. Students were asked to remain socially distanced as they took turns walking down a decorated pathway to a gazebo to greet principal Chris Boulay and vice principal Jennifer Mills. They then moved quickly in a loop to receive their diploma, collect a class sweater and then leave. A virtual ceremony was held later in the evening.

It was definitely efficient, and HHSS staff, notably Boulay and Mills, did an excellent job of recognizing each individual student and making them feel suitably special on their most special of days. Still, I couldn't help but feel for the kids. Their senior year – for many of them, the last with friends they have quite literally grown up with – their prom, now their graduation... All casualties to the COVID-19 pandemic.

It's a credit to the students that, despite a year of constant upheaval, they took it all in their stride and were still able to enjoy their watered down graduation.

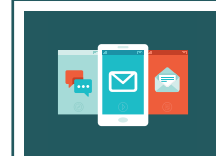
And with that said, there is plenty to be positive about. Many of them are moving on to bigger and better things, whether that be an engaging post-secondary program, a thought-provoking apprenticeship or an exciting new career. They have a brand new blank canvas to fill as they prepare to take the next steps in their life.

So, ladies and gentlemen, please join me in putting your hands together for the HHSS graduating class of 2021!



An unforeseen visitor

Donna Darby of Minden had a larger winged guest than expected to her deck last week. /Submitted photo



Have a thought, comment or opinion you'd like to share?

Send a letter to the editor to
chad@haliburtonpress.com

Finding peace with yoga on Highlands waters

by **DARREN LUM**
Times Staff

It's a dream come true for the owner of Wolf Flow SUP Yoga, Karley Stevenson, who is getting to fully embrace the wonders of the Highlands and share the benefits of doing yoga on a paddle board.

Originally from the foothills of Alberta in a place called Black Diamond, Stevenson came to Eagle Lake in November 2014. She was an accountant that had chronic neck and back pain, including tension headaches and rheumatoid arthritis. Although not cured from yoga, she learned movement was helpful. She told her clients she'd be back in three months. Six years later and she remains in the Highlands, offering scheduled classes on Head Lake in Haliburton and on Horseshoe Lake in Minden. Stevenson also offers private sessions.

"Although my heart belongs in the mountains, the lakes and rivers feed my Pisces soul," she said, as posted on her website.

The Highlands is an ideal location for her classes and sessions and satisfies who she is as a self-proclaimed "sun seeker." It's where the immersion of nature heightens the experience of yoga with its stimuli when compared to a conventional studio setting.

"We'll have the loons come and join us. Sometimes the geese. Sometimes the swans. We're able to see sunrises, sunsets, full moons just from a different point of view. You're able to feel the breeze. You're able to notice the board rocking underneath," she said. "It's just a neat experience when you're on the water compared to in a studio because you're outside with all these elements. It forces you to be mindful. It forces you to be



Karley Stevenson, owner of Wolf Flow SUP, holds a pose on her stand up paddleboard on Horseshoe Lake. Stevenson said she faced chronic neck and back pain, including tension headaches and reumatoid arthritis and found relief with movement while practising yoga. She said combining yoga on a stand up paddleboard on the waters of the Highlands is an amazing experience and she encourages people to try it with her. /DARREN LUM Staff

in the moment because sometimes in a yoga studio it's easy to be like 'is the dish washer on? What did I do? Did I lock the house? Are my keys in my car?' Where as when you're out here you're so distracted naturally by everything else occurring that you're just thinking about where you're putting your hand. Where you're putting your foot. Oh, yeah, don't forget to breathe ... you're just automatically living in the moment because you don't have choice."

Stevenson, who has been practising yoga for 12 years, is in her third year of operation.

She has completed 200 hours of training in yoga, which she completed in Costa Rica in

June 2018.

Her classes are delivered with step-by-step approach and work to make all participants comfortable, teaching basics about moving on the board and working towards more advanced poses, but still be accommodating for every person, encouraging and emphasizing fun.

"Although it can seem intimidating, because you're on this board on the water moving around, but we're able to start slow. You can start seated. You can start kneeling. You can stand up when you're ready and for the majority of the poses there is room on the boards. The boards are quite stable.. You're able to move around on them. I'm not saying it's always easy, but you can go with what's comfortable to you, so as I'm cueing positions, I'm always cueing my modifications," she said.

Private sessions can be held at a predetermined location, or Stevenson is open to seeing people where they are. These sessions can be customized related to particular areas of focus related to clients' personal goals. She adds goals can vary from wanting to stand on their heads, to just being balanced enough to be able to get up and down on the board.

Stevenson said she really appreciates the private sessions for the depth of interaction possible.

"Any class is fun, but the privates you're able to build a relationship," she said.

New this year is SUP fit class, which includes Pilates, cardio, HIIT style workout on a paddle board.

Stevenson said it's okay to feel a little anxious when starting yoga for the first time.

"I have struggled myself with insecurities regarding yoga - not being flexible enough. I have my own physical restrictions, which

people don't expect with me because I am a petite person. So, I understand that we all have different bodies and we all move in different ways," she said. "The one thing I like about the paddle board yoga is I find it to be more casual than a yoga studio. Although it's intimidating in other ways, because you're on a floating board, it's a little more fun. We try to make it a fun class where you're just trying to not fall in, so there is a lot of laughing."

Starting the business Wolf Flow SUP in the first place came from a realization of the potential of the area and how it can complement her love of sharing the benefits of yoga.

After four years in Ontario, she decided to start her business, Wolf Flow SUP, particularly after witnessing how her cousin out west had done so well establishing a similar business in an area with far fewer bodies of water to use as venues.

Before starting her business in the Highlands, she started doing yoga on a paddle board on her own and learned how great it was. That was when she knew it was something she wanted to pursue.

"That's when I decided, 'Well, let's just do it.' I was working full-time at the time and it was just going to be a hobby and then my second summer was a COVID summer and then this is my third summer, so I do still work, I do still have another job, but I'm able to focus on this. I have a flexible schedule so I'm able to prioritize this. Ideally, make it something out here. I think it's such a unique experience. It's so cool to get out on the water and just see it from a different point of view, so I really love sharing that."

Check out what's on offer through her website www.wolfflowsup.com.

The Hirstwood Homestead New Price \$595,000

1474 Buller Road, Minden Hills



This homestead dates back 100 years and is a rare find due to its 2 foot thick cut stone walls and 100 acre peaceful setting. Stone and wood for structure and trim came from this acreage and was milled for the home. The property includes a separate garage with hydro and concrete floor and a small building that used to be a 1 bedroom cottage. The home itself has 4 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms with a large eat in farmhouse kitchen. The acreage has some cleared areas, some nice bush, a stream along one side and a pond near the back. If you have always wanted to restore an original stone farmhouse, then this is the property for you. The 4 upstairs bedrooms all have those second floor farmhouse angled ceilings and original floors. If you are an artist, the exposure along Buller Road is just what you need, and the cabin can be moved anywhere on the property and converted into your art studio. If you are a "Snowbird", there is ample room to park your RV. Swimming is nearby on Clear Lake or Davis Lake. The potential to restore this home is incredible. Call to book an appointment today!



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BROKERAGE

HHOA issues survey on Kash chain rehabilitation

The Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association has issued a survey regarding fishing on the five-lake chain that includes Lake Kashagawigamog, the results of which it hopes to take to the MNRF in an effort to revitalize fishing habitat.

Those lakes include Head Lake, Grass Lake, Kashagawigamog, Soyers and Canning Lakes.

"This survey is designed to gather information on the fishing experiences of lake resi-

dents and other people who fish the chain," an introduction to the survey reads. The results will be used to support efforts to improve fishing and fish habitat on the Kash Chain. Your input is greatly appreciated."

The survey can be taken at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScXm9g7LAlkmvt7PDnGN0D1xmubzAdQT4S9iGdWueeAUwUEOA/viewform>

Staff

"Growing up, when it was time for the first swim of the season, my sisters and I would race across the dock to be first in the lake. And right behind us was Taffy, always thinking we needed rescuing."

- Pat Williams, Eagle Lake



For generations, life at the lake has given us unforgettable moments, but Blue Green Algae can be devastating to our lakes and to our health.

Poor septic maintenance and shoreline over-development accelerate toxic algae blooms that prevent us from swimming, fishing and even using lakewater in our homes.

Taking care of our County's beautiful lakes takes all of us. Be sure you know the full facts and discover the difference you can make.

When we protect our lakes, we protect the priceless memories yet to be made.

beshore.ca

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF

2021

Archie Stouffer Elementary School Gr. 8 Graduates

Emily Fitzell received a surprise visit with the announcement that she had been named Archie Stouffer Elementary School's valedictorian. In her speech at the elementary school virtual graduation on June 21, she told the 2021 graduating class that, "Everything we do now is for our future, this is just the beginning." /Submitted photo



Ms. Austin, Mr. Gervais, teachers, staff, family, friends and most importantly my fellow graduates.

For those of you who don't know who I am, my name is Emily Fitzell and I have been given the honour to speak as valedictorian.

Most of us have been together at Archie Stouffer since we were four and some of us arrived within the past few years, but it doesn't matter where you came from or when you came, what matters is that we're all here finishing together.

In the past 10 years we have all grown and changed thanks to our experiences and relationships we have had while at Archie. This is where we grew up, well most of us. We went from having launch monitors to being lunch monitors. We went from playing in the sand box to standing around in circles. We went from sitting criss-cross applesauce to sitting in a chair all day and we went from 2 + 2 to 15x-y+5, and don't ask me what that equals.

Our time here has been very memorable and not just because of the wonderful thing called COVID but because of the friendships we have built and experiences provided to us. Aside from our everyday classroom fun, some of the earlier memories that have stuck with me are our trips where we got to make and eat butter at the Pioneer Village and the splash pad at the Peterborough Zoo.

Our trip to Yearly was something many of us will never forget thanks to the cabin next to us being left unattended for the night and our many games of knee tag.

More recently playing sports that got a little too competitive, exploding pumpkins or watching Mak run down the bus lane every day because he is always late.

These memories and so many more we have made and shared will stay with us for the rest of our lives.

Archie has not only taught us the basic academics like math or science but over these years has also taught us valuable lessons in patience, collaboration, courage, confidence, compromise, perseverance and responsibility. All of these have helped us prepare for the last year or so as no one could have predicted that. We have gone from one routine to another, in school to online, over and over again. Just when we would get used to one routine we would have to switch to another

one. This, my classmates, has taught us resilience and we nailed it.

Now as we sit here together let's think back to what it was like when we first walked into kindergarten. It was different and scary because we were walking into the unknown with lots of really tall people, but that's also where this chapter began. As Brian Falkner says "life is like a book", we are finishing up this chapter today and about to start writing the next.

I know most of us are feeling nervous for what is ahead, I know I am. We are once again heading into the unknown. But remember, we have done this every few years for the past ten. From the bottom of the "food chain" to the top, JK to Grade 3, back to the bottom for 4 and back up to top for 6, then once again back to the bottom in Grade 7 and now we have finally made it to the very top in Grade 8! Each came with nerves and excitement and its own challenges. Every time we did it we came out with more experience and knowledge than the time before. I am confident we will all do just fine entering into high school together.

I couldn't conclude my speech without giving thanks to the many people who have made the past few years memorable.

First, Michele and Sue, for always being that approachable and welcoming face of Archie.

Bird, always able to cheer us up and have fun.

Kern, always there for us no matter what time of the day or what our problem was.

Ms. Patterson, and her ability to make us understand school work when others made math look like chicken scratch.

Mr. Sales, for his candy.

Mr. Gervais for making us laugh and for continuously putting that chicken song we love so much into the announcements.

And of course, Ms. Austin for always getting us out of school work to help her with a project.

Before we leave today I want you to remember:

There are no regrets in life, just life lessons.

Don't wait for things to change, be the change.

And most importantly, everything we do now is for our future, this is just the beginning.

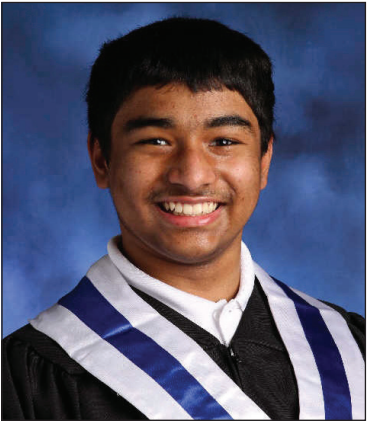
*Thank you,
Emily Fitzell*



Emery Bagshaw



Naiomi Bainbridge



Miles Bascombe



Logan Beaver



Logan Beers



Simon Berthelot



Haiden Bird

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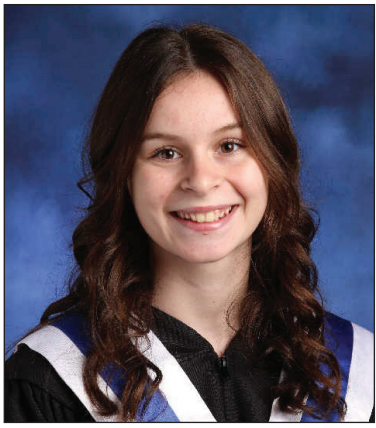
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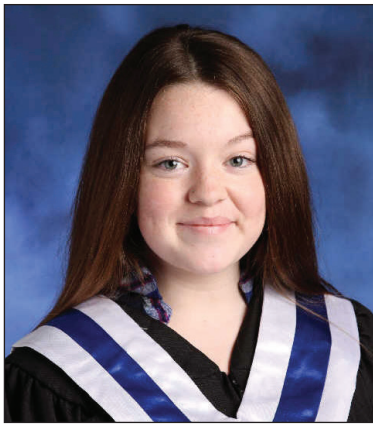
Enjoy your next adventure grads!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF
2021

Archie Stouffer Elementary School Gr. 8 Graduates



Eva Bliedung



Chanel Bowman



Skylar Brown



Kadin Card



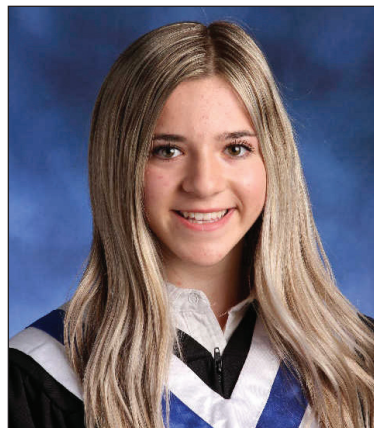
Adam Davis



Dalton Fairey



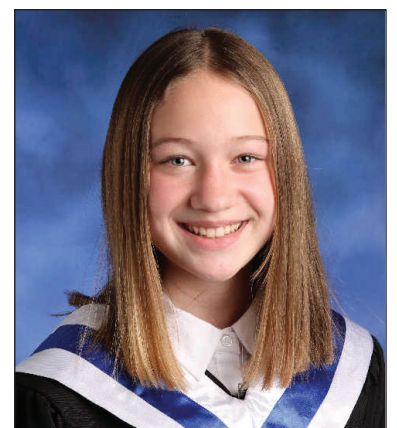
Emily Fitzell



Kennedy Gill



Cole Hamilton



Chloe Hartwig

Stories

Our stories bring us together.
Our stories set us apart.
Our stories are ours to write.

On this day of your graduation as you are transitioning from one chapter of your education to another, let us consider how we are the author of our own stories, and let's do this through the lens of the four p's of storytelling: people, place, plot and purpose.

PEOPLE. When you came into the world you were born to a life filled with different characters: family, friends, and neighbours. Each of these people play different roles in your story. They may be a sidekick, a confidante, an antagonist, or an extra. Remember that every great story is filled with complex, believable characters, some of whom let us shine and some of whom challenge our way of seeing the world. Love and celebrate the former and recognize that the latter play an integral role in making us who we are.

The most important character of your story is the Protagonist and that my dear graduate is YOU. So, when you are considering your role, resist the temptation to create the perfect lead character. Remember that perfect is boring, and remember that without a protagonist there is no story, and so you must develop this character, YOUR CHARACTER, first.

PLACE. Many of you have spent the entirety of your stories thus far in the place where you were born, while others have travelled and arrived at this place over time. It is important to recognize that the setting of your story will change. Some places will become central to different chapters of your life, and others will be simple backdrops to the other parts of your story. Canadian author, Alice Munro wrote, "In your life there are a few places, or maybe only one place, where something has happened. And

then there are the other places, which are just other places." But from each place you will learn. From each place you will take memories and from each place you will depart a different person. Be present in these places.

PLOT. The most interesting part of your story is the PLOT. The scariest part of your story is the same. You are writing your story in real time and plot twists and turns are bound to arise. Choices that you make will lead you in directions you may have never imagined. The trick is to be confident, be brave. Embrace opportunity. Look for adventure. Make the best choices with the information that you have and if you need more information take the time to seek it out so that you have what you need to make the best decision for you.

PURPOSE

This my graduates, this is the important question that will be pivotal to your life: What is the purpose of your story? Stories are created to entertain, they are written to inform and persuade, to elicit emotions. It is important for you to take your time to consider what purpose you wish your story to have. Your purpose will help lead you through your life, to make decisions based on your values and on your dreams. As you move through your story, fulfilling your purpose will help propel you forward in a beautiful way where the people, the places and the plot will come together to enrich your life and the lives of those around you.

I am so glad that you were a part of my story and I am so proud to have been a small part of yours.

Our stories bring us together.

Our stories set us apart.

Our stories are ours to write.

Principal Jane Austin



Quinn Higgins



Braidian Hudson



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Archie Stouffer Elementary School Gr. 8 Graduates



Maya Johnson



Jacy Lafontaine



Lee Nicole



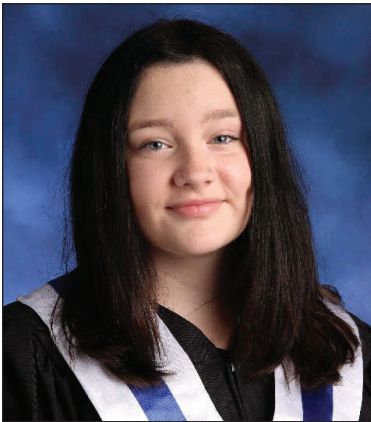
Andy Lippolis



Tinkerbell Maes



Alissa Mantle



Mackenzie McMartin-Lawr



Devon Michael-Lyddiatt



Aiden Milley



Aaron Neave



Nicholas Neville



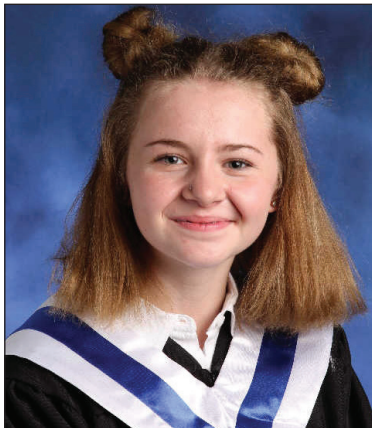
Dinah Ogley



Mak Prentice



Wyatt Raposo



Trista Robinson

I extend my congratulations to all 2021 graduates for reaching today's milestone. It was definitely uncharted water for you, your teachers and your parents, however you earned your diploma - it's YOURS and no one can take it away ---feel proud. Thank you to all the parents I know. Each graduate has a special story to tell about how important your support has been in getting them to this time of graduation. Thanks to all the teachers, support staff and the leadership of school administration for providing you with the academic tools and guidance to ensure your success. Graduates, I want you to remember that perseverance, resilience, tenacity and always a glimmer of hope got you through the last 12 to 16 months. Now is the

time to "Play It Forward," and use what you learned to the best of your advantage. There are many red lights in our lives, the pandemic being the biggest in our lifetime. How we handle red lights when everything stops is a true test of our character. I learned from a great coach, Lou Holtz at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend Indiana: "It's not the load you are carrying that breaks you down, it's your attitude on how you carry it." Graduates, it is now a green light - step on the gas and "Play it Forward." Graduates, stay positive find joy and never give up on hope. I ask you to dream more than others think is practical, to expect more than others think is possible, to work harder than the person next to you and believe

there is no "extra in the extra mile." I remind all of you to give thanks to those who gave you their unconditional love everyday. Make sure gratitude becomes a habit you practice for a lifetime -- it will keep you grounded because we all have so much to be grateful for. Graduates, life is precious, live it to the fullest. Be generous, be caring, speak kindly. I wish you happiness in your new journey - it's time to "Play it Forward."

Trustee Gary Brohman

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Archie Stouffer Elementary School Gr. 8 Graduates



Jayde Rowden_



Bailey Shanks



Dominic Smith



Jazmin Smith



Clair Stewart



Jocelyn Thompson



Hayden Thorn



Spencer Upton



William Volochkov

*Best wishes
to all the
graduates
of 2021!*

Gr. 8 Graduate Awards and Recipients

SES SCHOLARS - Achieved an average of 75 per cent or greater in their Gr. 8 Year

Simon Berthelot
Haiden Bird
Skylar Brown
Adam Davis
Kennedy Gill
Chloe Hartwig
Andy Lippolis
Aiden Milley
Wyatt Raposo
Bailey Shanks
William Volochkov

ASES HONOURS - Achieved an average of 80 per cent or greater in their Gr. 8 Year

Emery Bagshaw
Naomi Bainbrige
Miles Bascombe
Eva Bliedung
Logan Beers
Emily Fitzell
Cole Hamilton
Quinn Higgins
Maya Johnson
Nicole Lee
Alissa Mantle
Mak Prentice
Jocelyn Thompson

The Arts

Naomi Bainbrige
Nicole Lee

Mathematics

Mak Prentice
Emily Fitzell

English

Skylar Brown
Alissa Mantle

French

Nicole Lee
Cole Hamilton

Science

Logan Beers
Miles Bascombe

Geography

Emery Bagshaw
Jayde Rowden

History

Jocelyn Thompson
Quinn Higgins

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Academic Excellence Award

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Recipients: Logan Beers, Emily Fitzell, Nicole Lee, Alissa Mantle

Arcadia Masonic Lodge Award

Presented to a student who has worked very hard to succeed.

Recipients: Dalton Fairey, Aaron Neave

Alan Walker Memorial Award

Presented to a student who has demonstrated citizenship and who has been of great assistance to staff and students of our ASES community.

Recipient: Miles Bascombe

Character Education Award

Presented to a student who has exemplified the TLDSB character traits during his or her school years.

Recipients: Adam Davis, Quinn Higgins

Sarah Bloomfield Award

Presented to a student who is fun loving, has a zest for life and is always a spark in the room.

Recipient: Andy Lippolis

Principal All-Round Student Award

Presented to a student who has demonstrated excellence in academics, leadership, citizenship and extra-curricular activities.

Recipient: Emery Bagshaw

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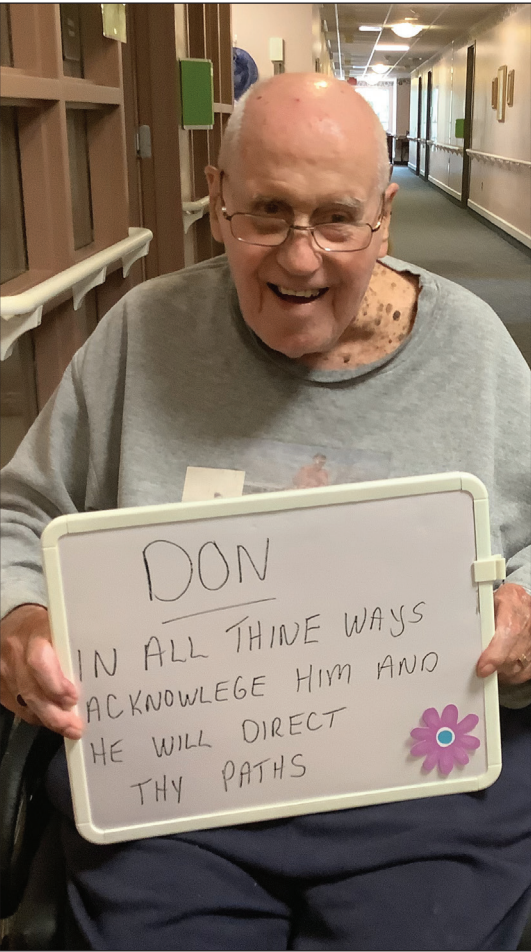
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Archie Stouffer Elementary School SK Graduates



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Celebrating the 2021 graduating Senior Kindergarten students from KA
at Archie Stouffer Elementary School!

Margaret Brogden remembered for ‘unflagging spirit’

by SUE TIFFIN
Times Staff

Margaret Brogden filled every day with activity, and in doing so, connected a network of both trails and people that ensures others in Haliburton County will be able to do the same.

The longtime Algonquin Highlands resident was 86 years old when she died at Highland Wood long-term care facility in Haliburton on May 17.

Margaret met her husband, Peter, in 1959 on a weekend trip into the mountains in northern Wales – one in which the group they were with slept in a barn, despite a rat eating its way through a loaf of bread while someone rested their head on it.

“This is what you do when you’re young and crazy,” laughed Peter, remembering the adventure of the monthly-or-so hiking or rock climbing trips.

Margaret – a home economics teacher – enjoyed being outdoors, first exploring the moors of Lancashire and Yorkshire near her home as a youngster.

“So she was well used to hiking around mountains, she’d done quite a bit of mountain hiking in the Lake District and things with her friends,” said Peter. “In spite of having an arm that didn’t move properly, she could still do quite a bit of rock climbing. She just enjoyed coming along and I enjoyed showing



Seen in this photo from June, 2014, Peter and Margaret Brogden sit on a bench in Algonquin Highlands dedicated to them as “advocates, trail blazers, inspirations to all.”/FILE PHOTO

her these things.”
In 1960, Peter said it was easier to get good accommodation if you were married – “In those days, that was what happened” – and so that year, the pair were married and moved into a two-bedroom brick house in

England. About five years later, they moved for Peter’s work to Ottawa with their three-year-old son, their second son arriving soon after they moved to Canada.

“So that was keeping her pretty busy,” said Peter.

But Margaret stayed active in other ways, too, playing tennis with friends and getting outside.

“With countryside around, we found ourselves enjoying cross-country skiing in the bush in Gatineau Park, just an awful lot of that,” said Peter.

The Brogdens next relocated to Toronto. Peter worked at Ryerson University and Margaret worked in accounting but they began looking for places close enough to Toronto that could be reached for at least a weekend.

“I found that Haliburton Forest offered us that sort of activity, and so that really got us coming up to Haliburton,” said Peter.

The family had a trailer based in Haliburton Forest from 1973 until the late 1980s.

“We had so many years with our trailer up on Clear Lake in Haliburton Forest, and that was a time when the two boys were growing up,” said Peter. “They spent a lot of time there and we were actually able to spend quite a lot of time camping and hiking out west as well.”

Their time in the forest and by the mountains was meaningful to their sons, Ian and Jim, as Peter and Margaret had intended.

“We were determined to introduce those boys to mountains at an early age, and we were able to do all sorts of things with the Alpine Club of Canada,” said Peter – he and Margaret are Alpine Club of Canada life members after first joining in 1966.

Peter and Margaret were organizers of the first ACC Family Camp at Lake O’Hara in 1969, in which 25 adults and 25 children – from teenagers to a baby in a crib – gathered in the Canadian Rockies, with adults sharing babysitting duties in order to take turns trekking. The Brogdens with their family of four were also resident custodians at the Wates-Gibson Hut in Jasper, Alberta in 1971.

“So that was really a big introduction for both sons to mountain existence, life,” said Peter.

Margaret’s obituary notes she will be “remembered for her enthusiastic humour and nature, and most of all for being mom.”

“Having had three older brothers, Margaret spent a lot of time with other young guys

“
Being Mom was really going out into the bush, and either skiing or hiking or whatever and getting to judge these things together [with our kids].”
— PETER BROGDEN ”

around the place doing all the rougher stuff, so she was quite prepared to do these things with the two boys, and they were quite prepared to do those things with us,” said Peter. “So being Mom was really going out into the bush, and either skiing or hiking or whatever and getting to judge these things together. And certainly that I think set them off in the right direction.”

The Brogdens built a house on Maple Lake and spent a lot of time on hiking trails and ski trails.

“That was something that intrigued us very much,” said Peter. “We spent a lot of time working out good trails, and I’m still doing that.”

Besides quite literally creating trails in Algonquin Highlands, Peter and Margaret founded, or were part of founding, numerous groups in the county.

“It was, downhill skiing, it doesn’t go on Mondays and Tuesdays, so on Tuesdays we would have cross-country skiing somewhere on the trail network,” said Peter. “And when the snow ran out in April, what are we going to do? So the next thing was, well, we’ll just get on bicycles and do much the same sort of thing. So that was the start of the Haliburton Real Easy Ryders Cycling Club.”

The Haliburton Real Easy Ryders Cycling Club began in 1997, growing from a membership of the Brogdens and six of their friends to more than 130 members.

The Haliburton Trekkers Group began with a small group joining Margaret, and now has a membership of more than 70 people.

“That started because in 2005, Margaret, playing tennis, had injured her knee, which had given her some problems before – it was

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Answers on page 19

Brogden was 'a lovely lady' who was 'very committed to her passions'

from page 16

going to have to get replaced,” said Peter. “But what she found was that she could put on snowshoes and walk still, but when she had skis, her cross-country skis, the pushing forward that was required to really get going on skis, that bothered her knee. And so, she said, I’m going to start a snowshoeing group. And seeing as the only other day that that could work was Mondays ...”

Saturday and Sunday would be downhill skiing, Monday would be snowshoeing, Tuesday would be cross-country skiing, and then back to downhill skiing on Wednesdays.

Eric Christensen, who owned Buttermilk Falls Resort, knew Margaret through the Friends of the Frost Centre. He described her as being “a lovely lady, very committed to her passions.”

“She was an ardent outdoors person, loved cross-country skiing, was always willing to do whatever was needed,” said Christensen. “She worked hard to promote hiking and cross-country skiing.”

Sheila Ziman remembers first meeting Margaret after encountering her and Peter cross-country skiing at Woodland Ranch, then part of the old Nordic ski trails.

“We had a long chat about life in the county, and I told them they’d fit right in and love living here,” said Ziman. “Turned out I was right!”

Ziman remembers Margaret as being very active, especially outdoors – cycling, skiing, hiking, snowshoeing.

“Margaret was always cheerful and upbeat,” said Ziman. “She loved being with other people and participating in group activities.”

In 2008, Margaret and Peter were named Enviro-Heroes by the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust, in the health category, for “a person or organization whose environmental activities promote, exemplify or result in healthy lifestyles,” which Ziman said was due to “their work developing and maintaining the early Algonquin Highlands trails, also their work



Margaret and Peter proudly show off an ‘Outstanding Individual Achievement Award’ they received in 2005 from the Ontario Trails Council.

see MARGARET page 18

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Margaret was 'a great role model' who led the way for active seniors

from page 17

maintaining and manning the registration desk at the Frost Centre cross-country ski trails.”

Ziman said Margaret was a “do-er.”

“Peter planned, and Margaret followed behind with flagging tape, snippers or a shovel – whatever was needed. [She] was always keen for an adventure – especially if it was outdoors in nature. She had an unflagging spirit.”

When Jane Boyd unveiled the installation of two benches on the Frost Centre hiking trails in Peter and Margaret’s names in 2014, she said to the crowd of people who attended the commemoration, “I think everyone here will live a longer, healthier and happier life because of Peter and Margaret.”

As the benches – a thank you gift – were being planned, Boyd said at that time that more than 50 donors, including groups the Brogdens had been connected to - the Haliburton Highlands Field Naturalists, the Haliburton Real Easy Ryders Cycling Club, the Trekkers Group and the Stanhope Tennis Group - contributed almost \$1,400 toward the effort of commemorating the impact the pair had made.

“You’ve been our trailblazers, our advocates, our role models and forever our friends,” read a certificate presented to the couple that day.

Ziman said Margaret was “a great role model – she led the way for active seniors. She was always welcoming and encouraging to new people in the group.”

It’s what Peter said she’ll be remembered for: “Of her love of doing things, of getting out and always prepared to encourage people to come along and do more. This is one of the main things, where you’ve got 80 per cent of the population in big cities, how many of them know what it is to be truly outside.”

While it was Peter who did most of the planning of activi-



Margaret Brogden loved being outdoors, and was involved with multiple organizations across Haliburton County.

ties and events the pair engaged in, he had found someone in Margaret who was always keen to do those things, and enjoyed doing them.

“That’s the way you find your partner for doing that sort of

thing, and whatever I was wanting to do, Margaret seemed to be quite prepared to go with it,” he said. “That is a really big thing, it encouraged me for so long.”



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BINGO



'Room to improve' vaccine coverage in area youth : MOH

by SUE TIFFIN
Times Staff

The following are brief reports from a Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge district health unit press conference with medical officer of health Dr. Natalie Bocking, held virtually June 30.

Of the 12 to 17-year-olds in the HKPR region, 54.3 per cent have received their first dose of vaccine, while in the 18 to 29-year-old group, 57 per cent have received their first dose of vaccine.

Bocking said there is "certainly still room to improve" vaccine numbers for younger people.

"If you're speaking with family members or colleagues with area youth, talk with them, engage them in conversations about the role of COVID vaccination," said Bocking. "Certainly when we look to the fall, flagging the importance of vaccination in helping us return to activities that we previously enjoyed together, such as organized sports, music events, other kind of media opportunities. I think there's a lot to look forward to and vaccination coverage is going to play an important informing feature as those things start to reopen."

Data from vaccine studies and trials for those younger than 12 will not be released until the fall, likely, Bocking said.

Vaccine rates by county

In Haliburton County, the percentage of people 12-and-

up who have received one dose of vaccine is 69.5 per cent, while in City of Kawartha Lakes 71.4 per cent of people have received one dose and in Northumberland County, 64.4 per cent of people have received one dose. The percentage of people 12-and-up who have received two doses is 30 per cent in Haliburton County, 27.6 per cent in City of Kawartha Lakes and 27.8 per cent in Northumberland County.

"What we're finding is that these numbers do fluctuate a little bit from week to week so that there might be one week that one county is one per cent higher or lower, than another county," said Bocking. "We use a number of things when we're looking at allocating vaccine, so one is certainly uptake and ensuring those clinics that we know fill up very, very quickly that we have enough vaccine flowing to them. We do look at coverage rates by county, so that if there is an area that seems to have lower rates, looking at other opportunities to flow vaccine to that area."

Vaccine roll-out showing a levelling off of first doses

Throughout the entire HKPR region, among the population that is 12 and over, 74.5 per cent of people have received their first dose of vaccine and 30.8 per cent have received two

doses of vaccine.

"We have noticed that our numbers for first dose vaccination have started to level off a bit," said Bocking. "We're starting to see from week to week, only very small incremental increases."

She noted that there is no "magic number" the health unit is looking for, given the circulation of variants known and unknown, but that "we would like to see that number as high as possible."

Walk-in clinics with no need for appointments could come to the region, and might increase first-dose vaccine intake.

Epidemiological update

In total, there have been 32 cases of COVID-19 in the HKPR region identified as the delta variant thus far.

In the last 14 days, Bocking said there had been two new hospital admissions – a lower number than in previous weeks. Of the COVID-19 cases identified in the past two weeks, 20 per cent are people under the age of 20. Regarding transmission, 40 per cent of the cases are household contacts, and 36 per cent are from an unknown source of transmission.

Bocking said she was hopeful the numbers would remain low.



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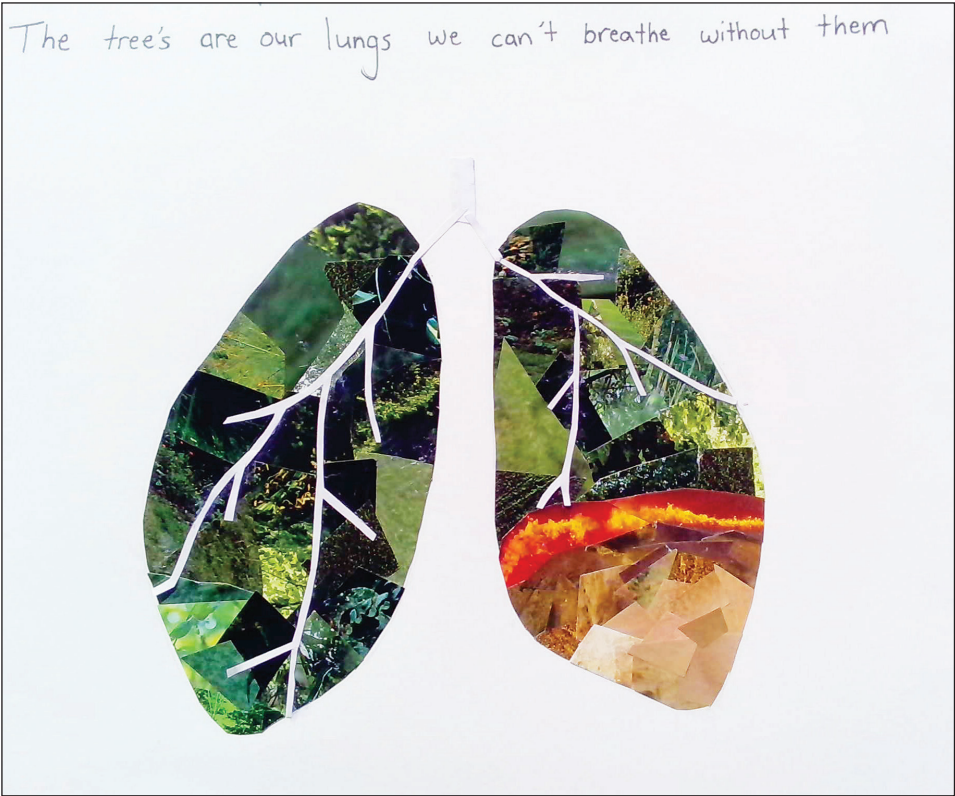
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Haliburton Highlands Secondary School Grade 9 student Taylor Horsley stands with the tree she won, as part of the Combat Climate Crisis on June 10 at the school in Haliburton. Organized by the District 18 Retired Teachers Ontario, this project was open to students from Grades 9 to 12 art students at the school and was designed to raise community awareness of the urgent need for action, as stated in the contest outline. /DARREN LUM Staff



Taylor Horsley's mixed-media work, which was chosen as the school's winner of the Combat Climate Crisis Project.

Award-winning piece a statement on climate change

by **DARREN LUM**
Times Staff

When Haliburton Highlands Secondary School Grade 9 art student Taylor Horsley won the secondary school poster contest Combat Climate Crisis Project, she felt a

mix of emotions ranging from surprise to excitement. "There was a lot going around with Australia and it was burning, so that was the main idea of my work and I wanted to put the tragedy of what was going on there to portray that," she said. Taylor won with her two dimensional mixed-media piece of a set of lungs, created

from a collection of magazine clippings showing various plants, set against varying shades of green in the left lung, and then a repeat of that imagine across the top half of the right lung, with the bottom half depicting a wall of fire and mixture of browns and shades of sand. The statement "The trees are our lungs, we can't breathe without them," featured predominantly on the piece.

Taylor, who was taking a Grade 10 arts class when she won, received an individual art kit.

Also part of the contest, a tree was planted at the back entrance of the school by the music class. An accompanying plaque with Taylor's name engraved will be installed in the autumn.

The success related to winning the District 18 Retired Teachers Ontario Project contest has given her inspiration to pursue other arts media for other creations such as sculpture and collages/mixed media. Before this effort, she had focused solely on drawing and painting.

The contest, which was open to any high school student enrolled in an art class, was designed to raise community awareness of the urgent need for action, as stated in the contest outline. The contest included 20 entries. There was also \$100 awarded to each participating art department's high school.

Taylor's teacher and the high school's art department head Karen Gervais wrote in an email that "we approached it from more of a fine arts perspective rather than a poster, which is what we did."

The context of the project that the students were working from, Gervais wrote, was they were studying the role of art as activism and were invited to select a subject of interest to inform and persuade others to take action about a specific issue. Some of the students' work has been displayed on the school's website.

Gervais wrote, "Taylor made creative use of the shape of the lungs, which also resembles the shape of leaves to draw attention to our interdependence with nature. She made creative use of colour and contrast to show the impact of climate changes and increase in forest fires and the devastation that results. I also like her use of recycled materials in the creation of this work as the paper itself is a product of trees and reminds us that we can all help to reduce, reuse and

recycle." Principal Chris Boulay and vice-principal Jennifer Mills were invited to select the winner from HHSS, Gervais said.

"This message was very clear and different than the rest and the use of different mediums was great," Mills said.

As part of the contest, the students were asked to describe their work, provide background information about the topic and why it is important.

From Taylor's prepared statement, she said her work is about deforestation in the world.

"Every day more than 200,000 acres of forest are burned, that's around 78 million acres a year. This can lead to climate change and increased greenhouse gases. This topic is important because trees are our source of oxygen, so by destroying them we're endangering ourselves as well," she wrote.

The students were also asked about how they attempted to visually communicate their message, to discuss symbols, media choices, colours, and the use of elements and principles of design.

"I communicated this by making the lungs trees and the right lung being burned by fire. I chose to do lungs because it represents how we breathe. By incorporated trees it relates to the earth and how without either of them we die. I also included a sentence at the top of the page relating to the issue," she wrote.

Taylor welcomed the opportunity to be part of an effort in combating the global climate crisis because she loves the outdoors.

"It can be elegant. It can be ... there is just a variety of things you can see in the outdoors. I think it was a bit tragic and hard to see that it's not thriving very well," she said.

Being more climate-aware has also made Taylor adjust her shopping habits.

She cited how many products contain palm oil, which was part of the growing demand for agricultural spaces and has been behind the destruction of parts of the Amazon Rainforest in Brazil.

"I didn't realize how much we use it in day-to-day life, so it kind of made me think ... even though it's useful and how we use it all the time, that it would be very hard to change it," she said.



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Bob Thomas is proud of all that he has achieved in the 18 years since he launched ROCKRIDE, a fundraiser for Childhood Cancer Canada. This year, he's reconnecting with his roots and bringing the event to the Highlands. /Submitted photo



Thomas family turns tragedy into inspiring story of perseverance

by MIKE BAKER
Times Staff

Former Wilberforce resident Bob Thomas has had to live through every parent's worst nightmare. Now, he's using the pain and suffering brought on by the tragic loss of a child as fuel to push his province-wide ROCKRIDE fundraiser forward.

The ROCK, or Ride 4 Our Cancer Kids as it is otherwise known, is now entering its 18th year. The annual event raises money for Childhood Cancer Canada, which works with 17 children's hospitals nationwide to help kids who have been diagnosed with cancer.

Since the ROCK's inaugural event in 2004, it has raised more than \$500,000.

As Thomas reflected on the overwhelming success of the ride in a recent interview with the *Times*, he looked back on the tremendous loss that precipitated it.

"This ride is really a memorial for my daughter, Samantha. She passed away three days before her third birthday, on May 18, 2003," Thomas said. "She was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic lymphoma in September 2002. She had a tumour the size of a grapefruit in her chest..."

After spending months visiting different hospitals – first Victoria Hospital in London, ON and, later, SickKids in Toronto – Thomas and his family, a wife and two other children, were given hope. After several rounds of chemotherapy, and a successful bone marrow transplant, in December 2002 it looked like Samantha was in the clear.

Then, with her immune system still recovering, she contracted a deadly respiratory syncytial virus [RSV]. Samantha was placed in a medically induced coma and put on a respirator. She would pass away a few days later.

Thomas remembers absolutely everything about that day. He and his wife were staying at the Ronald McDonald House close to SickKids when they got the emergency call at 4 a.m.

"My heart... I just remember sprinting over to the hospital, going up in the elevator. When we got there, there were lights flashing above Samantha's room, and doctors and nurses running around... Four hours later, we were driving back home with an empty car seat," Thomas said. "On that drive home, I was just thinking 'why? Why is this happening? How can something like this happen?'"

He continued, "I suppose that motivated me and inspired me to do something, to try and make a difference. I've been organizing these rides ever since."

The first event, which took place in Sarnia, raised \$13,000. A year later, that amount doubled to \$26,000. Today, ROCKRIDE typically brings in anywhere between \$35,000 and \$40,000.

That's particularly impressive when you

consider that the ride, in typical years, takes place over the course of a single day and tends to draw around 100 participants. The event has evolved, and moved, over the years, with rides taking place in Sarnia, Cambridge and Niagara Falls.

The 2021 ride will be the first in over two years, with Thomas forced to cancel his 2020 event due to the COVID-19 pandemic. While it was touch and go for a while whether he would be able to host an event this year, he came up with a new format that not only ensured the ROCK would move forward, but allowed Thomas to return to his roots in the Highlands.

"I couldn't plan for our normal event this year, because I didn't want to be in a similar position to last year, when I had to cancel. So I came up with something a little different, something that hopefully means even more people will take part this year," Thomas said.

This year, ROCKRIDE will take place in three different communities – Sarnia, Niagara Falls and Haliburton County. Rather than taking place on a single day, it will run for two months – from June 4 to July 26 – and will involve participants visiting different landmarks within their chosen community.

"We're doing a ROCK tour this year. Rather than having everyone going out together in a large group, we're encouraging individuals or families to go out on their own," Thomas said. "We've identified different landmarks that people can take selfies in front of... It's nice for us to open up the event to Haliburton [County], as all of the nice roads in Ontario are up there in the Highlands, and in cottage country. Having friends in the area, and with people always visiting, it made sense to us to launch a north region this year."

Included on the list of local landmarks to visit is the tank out front of the Haliburton Legion on Mountain Street, and the plane and train located on the grounds of Haliburton Highlands Secondary School.

For every selfie an individual takes in front of a landmark [limited to one per landmark] they can fill out a ballot online to be in with a chance of winning a grand prize - \$1,000 in gas cards. An additional ballot is given to registered riders for every \$25 they raise in pledges.

Thomas hopes this year's event will raise around \$30,000. As of press time, he was more than half way there, with over \$15,000 already brought in.

"I'm very proud of what we have been able to accomplish with the ROCK. To take something so negative, something that, frankly, almost took me out, and then use that as the fuel to power us to keep going and make something positive out of it, I'm very proud of that," Thomas said. "My family and I have weathered this thing together. The ROCK is our mission. It's our purpose."

To learn more, or to register for the 2021 ROCKRIDE, visit www.rockride.com.



NOTICE OF A PUBLIC MEETING CONCERNING A PROPOSED ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT

TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to Section 34 of the Planning Act, R.S.O., 1990, as amended, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills will hold a public meeting, which has general application to all lands within the Township of Minden Hills; and therefore a key map has not been provided.

PURPOSE AND EFFECT: The proposed Zoning By-law Amendment would serve to amend certain definitions, as well as introduce new regulations, intended to permit temporary habitation of a recreational vehicle on private property during the period of construction of a new dwelling.

AND TAKE NOTICE that the Township of Minden Hills will be holding a **Public Meeting**, as required under the Planning Act. The Public Meeting is an opportunity for Council to hear and consider comments related to the proposed amendments. Any member of the public may speak in favour, or opposition to, the proposed amendments during the Public Meeting.

DATE AND LOCATION OF PUBLIC MEETING

Date: Thursday, July 29, 2021
Time: 9:00 AM
Location: This will be held as a virtual meeting

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO WATCH THE MEETING can do so by joining the live-stream link, available on YouTube at: <https://youtu.be/L9yCZ-rBt-w>

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO PARTICIPATE AND MAKE COMMENT/ SPEAK AT THE MEETING regarding the proposed amendments are encouraged to pre-register by emailing admin@mindenhills.ca before 4:00 PM on Wednesday, July 28th. You may also attend the meeting and register the morning of July 29th, before 8:30 AM.

Participants registering after 8:30 AM will not be permitted into the public meeting.

Once registered, participants will automatically be placed into a holding room and brought into the meeting as permitted by the Chair.

To attend the Zoom virtual meeting via Web, type www.zoom.us/join in to your browser or attend by dialing the number below to access the meeting:

Telephone: 1-647-374-4685 or 1-647- 558-0588
Meeting ID: 945 6036 9425
Passcode: 092369

PLEASE NOTE: We encourage those wishing to view the meeting to also download the agenda, as it will not be displayed during the streaming process. Meeting agendas can be downloaded by visiting the township website at: www.mindenhills.ca/council.

Please note the live-stream link provided for each meeting will only be activated while Council is in session.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION regarding the proposed Amendment is available to the public for inspection at the Municipal Office located at 7 Milne Street by appointment or at such time as the Township offices re-open and is available online at www.mindenhills.ca/newsroom. For more information about this matter, including information about preserving your appeal rights, contact the undersigned at admin@mindenhills.ca or by phone at 705-286-1260 ext. 505.

ANY PERSON may attend the public meeting and/or make written or verbal representation either in support of or in opposition to the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment.

IF A PERSON OR PUBLIC BODY does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills before the by-law is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal

IF A PERSON OR PUBLIC BODY does not make oral submissions at a public meeting, or make written submissions to the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills before the by-law is passed, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal unless, in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

IF YOU WISH TO BE NOTIFIED of the decision of the Township of Minden Hills in respect to the proposed zoning by-law amendment, you must submit a written request to the Township of Minden Hills. For more information about this matter, including information about preserving your appeal rights, contact the undersigned at admin@mindenhills.ca.

ACCESSIBILITY: The Township of Minden Hills is committed to providing services as set out in the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005. If you have accessibility needs and require alternative formats or other accommodations, please contact the undersigned.

PRIVACY DISCLOSURE: As one of the purposes of the Planning Act is to provide for planning processes that are open and accessible, all written submissions, documents, correspondence, e-mails or other communications (including your name and address) form part of the public record and may be disclosed/made available by the Township as deemed appropriate, including anyone requesting such information. Please note that by submitting any of this information, you are providing the Township with your consent to use and disclose this information as part of the planning process.

DATED this 7th day of July, 2021
Trisha McKibbin, Clerk
7 Milne Street, P.O. Box 359
Minden, ON. K0M 2K0

Please note: paper submitted to the Township is being held for three (3) days before opening. If providing comment, please consider making an electronic submission to the e-mail address above, or, make specific reference to the Application Number on the outside of the envelope.

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Beloved wife of the late Angus Edward "Ed" Deeks (2016). Fondly remembered by Carol Moffatt-Hill, Diane and Dave Dollo, Maria Tschida, and Marianne and Caesar Corvinelli.

A special thanks from Georgina's friend's to the staff at Hyland Crest for all the loving care and support provided to Georgina during her stay.

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Monday, July 26, 1999. Number 1898



ROCKIN' AND ROLLIN': Children's entertainer David Archibald kept on rolling Friday night as the featured performer at the Music by the Gull free concert. Much to the delight of the youngsters, he opened the evening wheeling through the audience on roller blades as he sang and played the guitar. The evening also included a fund-raising hot dog barbecue which

garnered close to \$800 for the Hospitals building projects. Unfortunately, due to a sudden rain storm, the performance was cut short. Music by the Gull will not be on this Friday, because of the Heineken Yard which will take place on Main Street July 30. The free concerts return August 6 with vocalist Zoe Chilco.

Board will offer adult education program

The "Three R's" are becoming accessible to Haliburton County residents young and old this fall, as the first adult education centre is opened at the former Victoria Street School in Haliburton.

Earlier in the spring, the Trillium Lakelands District School Board decided to implement the adult education program in Haliburton County. Part of the board's mandate is to ensure that programs are available to all three former districts. Adult education has been offered in Victoria County for four and a half years and in Muskoka District for five and a half years.

Laura Willis will be co-ordinating the Haliburton

Look for us Tuesday next week

Due to the Civic Holiday next Monday, the next edition of The Times will be published on Tuesday August 3. Classified and display advertising deadline remain the same, Thursday at noon and 4 p.m. respectively. The Times staff hope you have an enjoyable and safe holiday weekend.



Laura Willis and Bob Smith unwrap some of the computers at the Victoria Street School, the future site of the Highlands Community Learning Centre.

County courses, which will focus on math, English and science skills. The courses are open to everyone, but, it is expected students will use opportunity to gain credits to earn a secondary school diploma. Willis has been a teacher at HHSS for almost 25 years.

The process of organizing and setting up the adult education centre is in its infancy, and Willis has begun meeting with Adult Education Principal Greg Einarson and Vice-Principal Ward Levine to iron out the problems encountered in setting up a totally new program. Everyone is confident that the programs will open by some time in September.

The expansion of the educational mandate of the school board has also created a partnership within the community as the Victoria Street School will be the home for the Sir Sandford Fleming College Academic upgrading program, headed by Bob Smith.

Students can attend the college courses first. Their programs are designed for individuals who may need specialized literacy or math skills. This training will be required before completing the high

(more on page 4)

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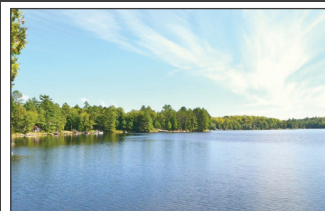
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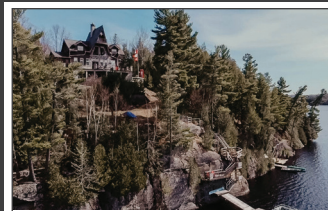
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Andy Campbell
854-0292

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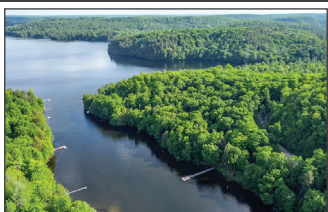
- 3 season ctg, 100' waterfront
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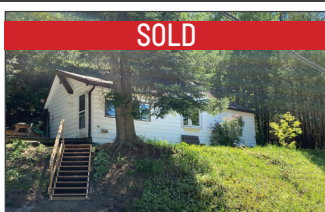
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Karen Nimigon**
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